

~~TOP SECRET~~(S) NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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THE NRO STAFF

27 JUN 1968

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Dear [ ]

This is in response to your letter of June 5, 1968, concerning the mapping, charting and geodesy requirements.

At the outset I would like to reiterate that the studies on the application of NRP collection systems for geodesy, which I indicated to you in my November response [ ] to your October letter, are still in progress. However, these studies are based on the accuracies specified in USIB-D-41.14/295, dated July 11, 1966, of 450 ft. horizontal and 300 ft. vertical. The preliminary results of these studies, which were initiated in October 1967 at your request, show that the current CORONA system utilizing the short arc technique and carrying a transit doppler beacon will probably at best marginally meet this accuracy. Some additional analysis is still required for confirmation, but it appears that full realization of the geodetic requirement by NRO systems

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I understand that during the May 24, 1968, meeting of the MC&G Working Group, the problem of the equatorial bad weather belt was discussed. DIA presented information which showed the area under discussion to be accessible

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While some of the area is not accessible to overt aircraft, covert aircraft in this case, could be considered with 303 Committee approval. Analysis conducted by this office shows that it is not economically attractive to use satellite systems against area requirements of less than about 13 million square miles. Therefore, the approach of utilizing [ ] or similar aircraft [ ] was suggested to the Working Group for their consideration.

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I hope this information is helpful to you.

Sincerely,

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RUSSELL A. BERG  
Brigadier General, USAF  
Director

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Chairman, COMIREX  
Central Intelligence Agency

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